

LITERATURE CITED.

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A CURIOUS HABIT OF AN EMPIDID FLY;  
FURTHER NOTES.

BY GEO. STEYSKAL, Detroit, Mich.

When the first observations on *Rhamphomyia fumosa* Loew were made during 1939 and 1940 (reported in this Bulletin, vol. XXXVI, p. 117; 1941), no males were seen in the vicinity of the swarming females. In Detroit from June 8 until June 26, 1941, both sexes of *fumosa* were more abundant than before, and on June 16, 17 and 26 swarms were observed at dusk. This time males were seen.

There was a large swarm in my garden on all three dates next a number of large royal ferns (*Osmunda regalis* L.), a few yards from the spot where they were seen in the previous seasons. The swarm certainly included over a hundred females. Occasionally a pair would be noticed flying somewhat more rapidly than single females. They would often separate as much as two yards from the swarm and would usually fly at a little higher elevation. The pairs were never seen to alight although single females were seen to do so in several instances.

Each time a mating pair was swept into the net a prey was found in a dead or moribund condition. Whether or not the female had possession of the prey could not be determined since by the time the net could be held up for examination the sexes had separated and were actively trying to escape. The prey was as follows. June 16: 2 small caddis flies, 2 small crane flies (*Dicranomyia liberta* O. S.), 4 gnats (*Chironomus* spp.); June 17: 7 *Chironomus* spp., 5 *Dicranomyia liberta*, 2 mosquitoes (*Aedes stimulans* Wlk., *Culex* sp.), 1 small *Rhamphomyia* sp.; June 26: 4 *Chironomus* spp., 3 *Dicranomyia liberta*, 1 small caddis fly.